

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 PA-03 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6327

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL OCLR SP

SUBJECT: ATLANTIS PROJECT - GOS EXPLAINS DENIAL OF PERMIT

1. TRANSLATED BELOW (UNESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED) IS AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PRESS OFFICE OF THE SPANISH NAVY MINISTRY WHICH MAY PROVE USEFUL TO THE DEPT IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES.

2. QTE CONCERNING SOME REPORTS WHICH HAVE APPEARED RECENTLY IN THE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC PRESS ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF A GROUP OF AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE WATERS OF CADIZ, DIRECTED TO FINDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRACES OF ATLANTIS, THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE:

3. QTE THE LEADERSHIP GRANTED PERMISSION FROM THIS MINISTRY FOR THIS PURPOSE AS IS REQUIRED BY LAW NUMBER 60 OF 1962. THIS LAW CONCERNS MARITIME DISCOVERIES AND THEIR REMOVAL, AND SETS FORTH A SERIES OF REQUIRED LEGAL STEPS.

4. QTE IN THE COURSE OF THE RELEVANT INVESTIGATION THE FOLLOWING WAS BROUGHT OUT AND SATISFACTORILY ESTABLISHED: THERE IS A GROUP OF FOREIGNERS WHO, MAKING USE OF THE STUDIES PROPOSED BY THIS EXPEDITION AS A COVER, WERE SEEKING PERSONAL GAIN, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE NATIONAL INTERESTS WHICH ARE SAFEGUARDED BY THE LAW CITED ABOVE.

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5. QTE THAT THIS EXPEDITION DID NOT PRESENT EVIDENCE OF THE NECESSARY SCIENTIFIC COMPETENCE AND LACKED ADEQUATE MEANS TO CARRY OUT THIS SORT OF WORK.

6. QTE AS A RESULT, THIS MINISTRY HAS DENIED IT PERMISSION, IN VIEW AS WELL OF SOME STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE EXPEDITION TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY HAD CARRIED OUT DIVING OPERATIONS IN THE WATERS OF CADIZ. IF THEY HAVE DONE THIS WITHIN TERRITORIAL WATERS IT WAS DONE ILLEGALLY AND SURREPTITIOUSLY. AND IF THESE OPERATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT OUTSIDE SUCH LIMITS, IT DOES NOT SEEM LIKELY, GIVEN THE LACK OF THE KIND OF EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR THESE OPERATIONS, AND GIVEN THE KIND OF WATERS LOCATED THERE AND THEIR DEPTH. END QTE.
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